

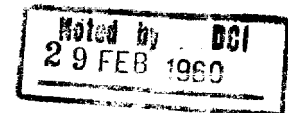
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CONFIDENTIAL

19 February 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: The Cyprus Problem



1. Contention over the size of British bases has forced a postponement of Cypriot independence. There is extreme pessimism in some quarters, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] that Cyprus might again face the gloomy situation preceding the London-Zurich agreements of early 1959.

2. We acknowledge the possibility that things could go seriously wrong, and in any case it is clear that independence will be delayed well beyond the February 1960 date considered probable when NIE 32.5-59 "The Outlook for an Independent Cyprus" was published in October 1959. Nevertheless, the interested parties are still in communication, and all sides undoubtedly fear the consequences of failure. Thus there are strong incentives to produce some reasonably tolerable adjustment, and we think the odds favor such an outcome. In the meantime, the existing estimate remains a valid assessment of the prospects once independence is achieved.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:

	SHERMAN KENT Chairman

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